Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-11 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

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R 090845Z MAR 76 FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1484 INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN, GH

SUBJ: TROPICAL PRODUCTS NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 026631, (B) 75 STATE 287116

- 1. IN HOPES THAT EMBASSY COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS WILL STILL BE OF INTEREST FOR MTN, WE ARE FORWARDING THESE COMMENTS ON GHANAIAN FOREIGN TRADE.
- 2. DUTIES ON NON-ESSENTIAL CONSUMER AND LUXURY GOODS AND PRODUCTS COMPETING WITH LOCAL INDUSTRY ARE HIGH, FIFTY PERCENT OR MORE. DUTIES ON ESSENTIAL COMMIDITIES AND RAW MATERIALS FOR INDUSTRY ARE GENERALLY FREE OR LOW. TARIFF IS SINGLE COLUMN AND AD VALOREM.
- 3. ALL IMPORT MUST BE LICENSED, THE FEE FOR WHICH RANGES FROM FIVE TO ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY PERCENT OF THE C AND F VALUE OF THE GOODS. FOR LICENSING PURPOSES, IMPORTS ARE ON ONE OF THREE LISTS, ELIGIBLE, FOR WHICH LICENSES ARE CUSTOMARILY ISSUED; RESTRICTED, WHICH ARE CLOSELY CONTROLLED; AND BANNED, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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A SHORT LIST TO PROTECT LOCAL INDUSTRY. IMPORT LICENSES ARE

ALLOCATED BY THE MINISTRY OF TRADE AND TOURISM, THEORETICALLY ON THE BASIS OF RPEOVIOUS YEARS IMPORTS; THIS SYSTEM IS SUBJECT TO SOME ABUSES AND LOW PRIORITY GOODS ARE SOMETIMES IMPORTED. IMPORT LICENSING SYSTEM APPEARS TO BE BEYOND SCOPE OF MTN, HOWEVER,

- 4. MAIN BARRIER TO EXPANSION OF U.S. EXPORTS HERE IS COUNTRY'S CONTINUING FOREIGN EXCHANGE CONSTRAINT, HOWEVER, NEGOTIATORS MAY WISH TO STUDY EFFECT OF LOWER DUTIES ON U.S. EXPORTS TO GHANA OF FOLLOWING PRODUCTS: OFFICE MACHINES AND CALCULATORS, REFRIGERATION EQUIPMENT AND TRUCKS. THESE ARE AREAS WHERE IMPORTS ARE SIZEABLE AND U.S. SHARE MIGHT BE EXPANDED.
- 5. EMBASSY REGRETS DELAY BUT RECENT TRADE FAIR AND OTHER PRIORITY MATTERS HAVE FRCED POSTPONEMENT OF OUR REPLY. BLACK

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To: STATE

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